AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method of identifying at least one epitope binding domain capable of binding to a predetermined epitope comprising:

(a) displaying on the surface of a biological display system a panel of recombinant polypeptides comprised of:

(1) an N-terminal blocking domain at the N-terminus of said recombinant polypeptides,

(2) a C-terminal anchoring domain at the C-terminus of said recombinant polypeptides, said C-terminal anchoring domain mediates anchoring of said recombinant polypeptides to the surface of said display system, and

(3) at least one epitope binding domain positioned between said N-terminal blocking domain and said C-terminal anchoring domain; and

(b) identifying a subset of said recombinant polypeptides that comprise an epitope binding domain capable of binding to said predetermined epitope.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein said N-terminal blocking domain and said epitope binding domain are linked by a polypeptide linker~~,~~.

3. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein said epitope binding domain is a pair of V_H-V_L, V_H-V_H or V_L-V_L domains.

4. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1 wherein said display system is a filamentous phage system, a baculovirus expression system, a ribosome based expression system, a bacteriophage lambda display system or a bacterial surface expression system.

5. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 4, further comprising, prior to step (a), the further step of:

(a") transfecting bacteria with recombinant vectors encoding said recombinant polypeptides.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 5, further comprising, prior to step (a"), the further step of:

(a') cloning a panel of nucleic acid molecules encoding ~~said~~ epitope binding domains into a vector.

7. **(Original)** The method of claim 6, wherein said panel of nucleic acid molecules is derived from immune competent cells of a mammal, fish or bird.

8. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein said N-terminal blocking domain comprises at least 9 amino acids.

9. (**Previously Presented)** The method of claim 8, wherein said N-terminal blocking domain is or is derived from the N2-domain of the gene III product of filamentous phage.

10. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein said C-terminal anchoring domain is or is derived from the C-terminal CT-domain of the gene III product of filamentous phage.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein said- recombinant polypeptide is a bifunctional- or a multifunctional polypeptide.

12. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein said N-terminal blocking domain comprises an amino acid sequence that forms an effector domain having a ~~a~~-biological activity.

13. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 12 wherein said effector domain is an enzyme, toxin, receptor, binding site, biosynthetic antibody binding site, growth factor, cell-differentiation factor, lymphokine, cytokine or hormone.

14. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 38 wherein said effector domain~~sequence~~ capable of sequestering an ion is calmodulin, methallothionein, a fragment thereof, or an amino acid sequence rich in at least one of glutamic acid, aspartic acid, lysine, and arginine.

15. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 38 wherein said effector domain ~~said polypeptide sequence~~ capable of selective binding to a solid support is a positively or negatively charged amino acid sequence, a cysteine-containing amino acid sequence, streptavidin, or a fragment of ~~Staphylococcus~~ *Staphylococcus* protein A.

16. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 13, wherein said receptor comprises a co-stimulatory surface molecule important for T-cell activation, an epitope binding domain or a hormone binding site.

17. **(Original)** The method of claim 16, wherein said co-stimulatory surface molecule is CD80 (B7-1), CD86 (B7-2), CD58 (LFA-3) or CD54 (ICAM-1).

18. **(Cancelled)**

19. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 3, wherein said pair of epitope binding domains are connected by a flexible linker.

20. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

(b‴) verifying whether said epitope binding domain binds to said predetermined epitope.

21. **(Previously Presented)** A kit comprising:

(a) a panel of recombinant vectors encoding a panel of recombinant polypeptides comprised of:

i. an N-terminal blocking domain at the N-terminus of said recombinant polypeptides;

ii. a C-terminal anchoring domain at the C-terminus of said recombinant polypeptides;

iii. at least one epitope binding domain positioned between said N-terminal blocking domain and said C-terminal anchoring domain; and

(b) a bacterial library transfected with a panel of vectors as defined in (a).

22. **(Currently Amended)** An isolated epitope binding domain or recombinant polypeptide ~~obtainable~~ identified by the method of claim 1, wherein said epitope binding domain or recombinant polypeptide comprises at least three of the complementarity determining regions (CDR) from SEQ ID Nos. 61, 63, 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75 and 77.

23. **(Previously Presented)** An isolated polypeptide or antibody comprising at least one epitope binding domain according to claim 22.

24. **(Previously Presented)** An isolated polypeptide or antibody comprising at least one epitope binding domain selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 61, 63, 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75 and 77.

25. **(Previously Presented)** An isolated polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide or antibody according to claim 23 or 24.

26. **(Previously Presented)** A cell transfected with a polynucleotide according to claim 25.

27. **(Original)** A process for the preparation of a polypeptide or antibody of claim 23 or 24 comprising cultivating a cell of claim 26 under conditions suitable for the expression of the polypeptide and isolating the polypeptide from the cell culture medium.

28. **(Previously Presented)** A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide or antibody according to claim 23 or 24 .

29. **(Previously Presented)** A diagnostic composition comprising the polypeptide or antibody of claim 23 or 24.

30. **(Currently Amended)** An isolated epitope binding domain or recombinant polypeptide ~~obtainable~~ identified by the method of claim 1, wherein said epitope binding domain or recombinant polypeptide comprises the three complementarity determining regions (CDR) from SEQ ID No. 75.

31. **(Previously Presented)** An isolated polypeptide or antibody comprising at least one epitope binding domain or recombinant polypeptide according to claim 30.

32. **(Currently Amended)** An isolated polypeptide or antibody comprising the amino acid sequence of~~set forth in~~ SEQ ID No. 75.

33. **(Currently Amended)** The polypeptide of claim 32 comprising the amino acid sequence of ~~set forth in~~ SEQ ID No. 75.

34. **(Previously Presented)** An isolated polypeptide or an antibody comprising at least three of the complementarity binding regions (CDR) from SEQ ID Nos. 61, 63, 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75 and 77.

35. **(Currently Amended)** An isolated polypeptide or an antibody comprising the epitope binding domain of~~set forth in~~ SEQ ID No. 75.

36. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein said epitope binding domain is comprised of at least two domains selected from the group consisting of V_H and V_L.

37. (**Previously Presented**) The method of claim 19, wherein said polypeptide linker comprises a plurality of hydrophilic amino acids and allows for said epitope binding domains to assume a conformation suitable for binding epitope when disposed in aqueous solution.

38. (**Currently Amended**) The method of claim 12, wherein said effector ~~protein~~ domain is capable of sequestering an ion or selective binding to a solid support.

39. (**Previously Presented**) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 28, further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

40. (**Previously Presented**) The diagnostic composition according to claim 29, further comprising means for detection.

41. (**Previously Presented**) The method of claim 1, wherein said recombinant polypeptides are bivalent or multivalent.

42. (**Previously Presented**) The method of claim 2, wherein said polypeptide linker comprises a plurality of hydrophilic amino acids and connects the C-terminal end of said blocking domain and the N-terminal end of said epitope binding domain